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CLOSED SHUTTERS

ELIZABETH NOURSE

A PAINTING BY ELIZABETH NOURSE

THE "Closed Shutters," by Elizabeth Nourse, was purchased a short time ago by the French Government for the Luxembourg Gallery. It was painted in Haute Alsace in 1910 and exhibited in the Paris Salon of the same year. The accompanying reproduction gives but an inadequate idea of the picture as its chief charm lies in the illusion given of sunlight coming through the closed blinds, and in the contrast of dazzling sunshine out-of-doors with the shadowy coolness within. Obviously this effect is obtained through a skilful handling of color, as well as a nice adjustment of values.

Aside from this, however, there is a simple homeliness about the scene which makes appeal. In all her pictures Miss Nourse touches upon the fundamental things of life which have universal significance. She has lived much in France and has painted the French peasants with sympathy and understanding. Her work is virile and sincere. It has sentiment, but also sound painter-like qualities. Miss Nourse was born in Ohio and received her first instruction in art at the Cincinnati Art Academy. She is a member of the Société National des Beaux Arts.